

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

EDWARD K. LOVE FOUNDATION PROMOTES MISSOURI CONSERVATION. Some of the activities stimulated by grants from the Edward K. Love Foundation, established in December 1938 with a principal of \$100,000, will be of interest to Wilson Club members. They are designed to fit into the program of the Conservation Commission, which has repeatedly emphasized the paramount importance of scientific research, natural production, and public participation.

For scientific research:

(1) Two \$500 research fellowships at the University of Missouri, each with an additional allotment for travel-expense. The Foundation stipulates that one of these Fellows shall be engaged in the study of furbearers, the other in the study of some problem in aquatic biology. The former, Mr. Carl R. Noren, is studying limiting factors in the life-history of the raccoon; the latter, Mr. James R. Hurt, is beginning a survey of the distribution, ecology, and management of aquatic plants in Missouri.

(2) The Foundation has contributed \$1,000 to the Commission, toward the expenses of an aquatic biologist, Dr. W. C. Frohne, who will be concerned with research and with the management of aquatic resources.

For natural production and public participation:

(3) County wildlife organizations:

In each quarter of Missouri, \$200 in cash prizes, half for constructive work in the restoration of upland wildlife, half for similar efforts on behalf of aquatic and semi-aquatic wildlife. Artificial restocking is *not* included among these activities, which are outlined in the form of a dozen or more projects having as their objective the improvement of native environment and increased public participation

(4) 4-H Clubs:

(a) Two \$100 scholarships for the freshman year at the University of Missouri, for boys or girls who have made outstanding individual contributions along the lines just indicated.

(b) \$100 in cash prizes for group activities of a similar nature.

(5) Future Farmers of America:

One \$100 freshman scholarship at the University of Missouri and \$200 in cash prizes.

(6) Other High-School conservation clubs:

\$100 in cash prizes.

The first scholarship awards under (4) and (5) were made last summer. The first cash awards are to be made to all four groups in the spring of 1940. All awards are made on the basis of written reports, oral interviews, and field examination of the projects by field biologists of the Conservation Commission. The entire matter is in the hands of a central committee, with special committees supervising the several special activities.

DUCKS UNLIMITED. During the past ten years there have arisen two conservation organizations bearing similar names: "MORE GAME BIRDS" and "DUCKS UNLIMITED." The intent of these organizations has been freely criticized by *Nature Magazine* and by numerous workers in the conservation field. As is frequently the case, however, many of the critics have not been thoroughly acquainted with the personnel or accomplishments. This is not the place to review these organizations completely and we intend only to point out that such organizations frequently serve better than admitted by their critics.

The MORE GAME BIRDS organization certainly over-stressed "restocking and predator control," but they have contributed several bulletins useful to wildlife workers. DUCKS UNLIMITED, INC., (an out-growth of MORE GAME BIRDS activities)

is functioning in the United States to raise funds which are sent to DUCKS UNLIMITED, LTD., of Canada. The quality of field work, public contacts, and other activities of the Canadian work of DUCKS UNLIMITED seems to compare not unfavorably with that of well-known government agencies engaged in similar reconnoitering and restoration. It is not claimed by them that crows and droughts are the principal enemies of waterfowl; for they readily admit the seriousness of shooting. Any organization sincerely and intelligently working for waterfowl habitat restoration and public education in conservation affairs deserves tolerance and due appreciation, regardless of which side of our Canadian border the work is being done. Such organizations are no doubt benefiting from past experiences, as also are many of the state and federal agencies entrusted with wildlife affairs.

FEDERAL AID TO WILDLIFE. Under new projects Ohio and Connecticut are working on Ruffed Grouse, Virginia and Nebraska on the Quail, and Oregon is studying the Sage Grouse. Oregon, California, and Idaho are doing work with the beaver; Vermont is planning a survey of its fur animals, and Mississippi is undertaking a wildlife resources survey under the leadership of Miss Fannye Cook, biologist for the Commission. Many states, chiefly in the West, are undertaking deer management projects, and numerous states are acquiring new refuge areas.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Miles D. Pirnie, Chairman

ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

Dr. Alden H. Miller has been appointed Director of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California.

Dr. Thomas S. Roberts was given the honorary degree of Doctor of Science by the University of Minnesota last June in recognition of his accomplishments in ornithology and his success in developing the Minnesota Museum of Natural History.

The Sixth Annual Midwest Wildlife Conference will be held in Urbana, Illinois on November 14 to 16. A special feature of the meeting will be the dedication of the new five-story Natural Resources Building on the University of Illinois campus.

The Department of Zoology of Carleton College has recently been given the North American bird egg collection of Alpheus Hewitt of Winnebago, Minnesota. This collection comprises 4,000 eggs, all with full data. The majority of the specimens were collected forty or fifty years ago and there are included therefore the eggs of many species which are now exceedingly rare.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union was held at the New England Museum of Natural History in Boston and at the Institute of Geographical Exploration of Harvard University, September 9 to 12, with a registered attendance of 310.

Officers elected for the new year were as follows: President, James P. Chapin, New York City; Vice-Presidents, James L. Peters, Cambridge, Massachusetts, and George Willett, Los Angeles, California; Secretary, Lawrence E. Hicks, Columbus, Ohio; Treasurer, Rudyerd Boulton, Chicago, Illinois; Council, Ira N. Gabrielson, Washington, D.C., James Savage, Buffalo, New York, and J. Van Tyne, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

The Brewster Medal was awarded to James L. Peters for his "Check-list of Birds of the World."

Two Fellows were elected: Stanley G. Jewett, Portland, Oregon, and Robert T. Moore, Pasadena, California. In addition to 228 new Associate Members, 8 new Members were elected: Oliver L. Austin, M.D., Tuckahoe, N.Y.; Joseph J. Hickey, New York City; George H. Lowery, Baton Rouge, La.; Eugene E. Murphy, Augusta, Ga.; John R. Pemberton, Altadena, Calif.; Arlie W. Schorger, Madison, Wis.; Milton B. Trautman, Put-in-Bay, Ohio; and Lawrence H. Wilkinshaw, Battle Creek, Mich.

The 1940 meeting will be held in Denver.